

****ATTENTION****

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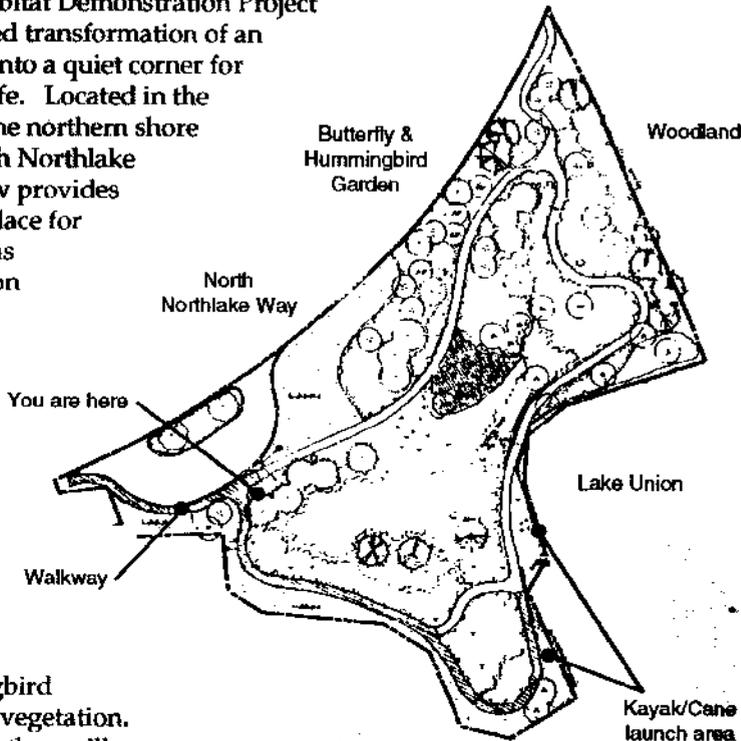
Waterway 19 Habitat Demonstration Project

The Transformation of Waterway 19

The Waterway 19 Habitat Demonstration Project is a community-initiated transformation of an abandoned street end into a quiet corner for both people and wildlife. Located in the heart of Seattle along the northern shore of Lake Union on North Northlake Way, Waterway 19 now provides a nesting and resting place for urban wildlife as well as recreation and education for park users.

In the fall of 1991 dense brush and litter on the eastern edge of Gasworks Park were cleaned up by community volunteers, who enhanced two acres with native woodland, butterfly and hummingbird gardens, and shoreline vegetation. As the gardens mature, they will become a safe haven that will attract local and migrating birds, mammals and butterflies.

Come visit this peaceful pocket of green. Take a leisurely stroll along its paths, spend some time watching and listening to your wild neighbors.



Nature's Needs

Wildlife need the same basic things we do - food, water, shelter and space. Natural habitat not only provides these things for all living creatures (us included), but does so in a way that encourages maximum diversity of life forms.

This happens because the natural world provides three key characteristics of wildlife habitat: variety, edges, and layering of native vegetation. The more variety of native plants, the more borders or edges between different habitats, and the more layers at varying heights of vegetation, the more types of wildlife there will be.

Put together, this fosters maximum diversity. Diversity is the spice of life! To better show you what we mean, this demonstration project highlights three different habitats for wildlife - woodland, butterfly and hummingbird garden, and shoreline. More than 1,000 native plants were used to recreate these environments, because native plants survive best in Seattle's weather and soil conditions, require little if any maintenance, and provide the food and shelter best suited to our urban wildlife.

Basic Needs

Food - Seeds, berries, nuts, flower nectar, grasses, insects, algae

Water - Birdbaths, drip faucets, sprinklers, ponds, puddles, streams

Shelter - Trees, shrubs, brush piles, rock piles, rock walls, hollow logs, dead trees, wildlife houses

Space - travel corridors, territories, open places, sanctuaries

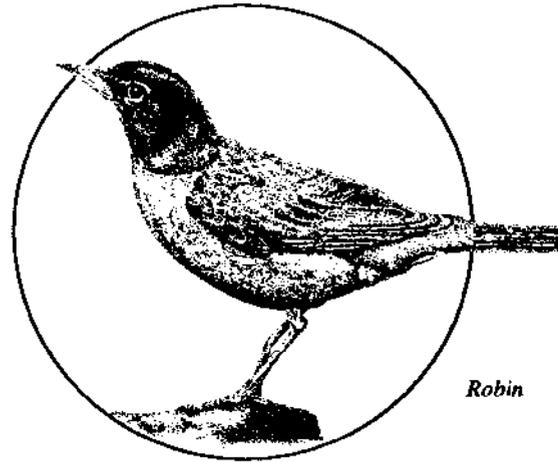


American Widgeon

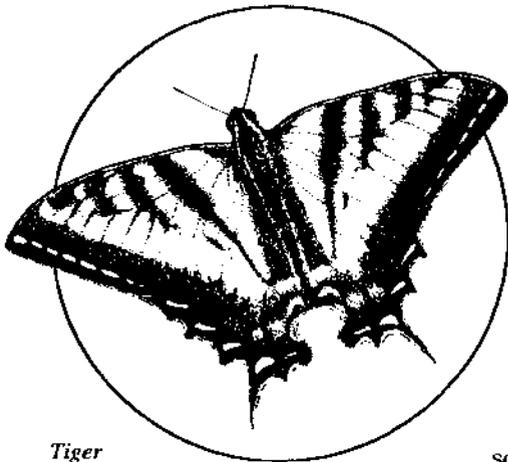
Waterway 19's New Look

Woodland

Many varieties and layers of plants were planted, from ground cover and low bushes to tall shrubs to broad-leaf trees and tall evergreens. This is intended to attract many species of song birds, hawks, insects and mammals. Plants were arranged in a crescent shape hugging the hillside and the shore of Lake Union to create as much edge between habitats as possible. This increases the attraction for wildlife.



Robin



Tiger Swallowtail

Butterfly and Hummingbird Garden

Hummingbirds are attracted to color; butterflies to both color and fragrance. That's why you'll find plenty of colorful, fragrant plants in this garden. Early and late blooming flowers are interspersed to avoid flowerless times throughout the blooming season. The sun and shade requirements are also important features of this design, as are the varying heights of these flowers which can provide protection for birds. For example, hummingbirds may be safer from ground predators such as cats when they feed from flowers two to three feet tall.

Most of the plants here serve as food, from the tall, fragrant Butterfly Bush to the colorful Columbine with its sweet nectar. However, a few vine maple trees also scattered throughout the area provide safe homes for the growth stages of some butterflies. Notice that this flower garden is next to the Woodland. These habitats create a natural corridor for wildlife to travel safely in.

Shoreline

This is one of the few remaining natural shorelines on Lake Union. The lake-to-land border it creates provides resting and feeding habitat for waterfowl as well as for the elusive beaver. (Notice the wire protecting tree trunks from the beaver's urge to cut wood for dams). Willow trees, cattails and iris can be found here, along with red osier dogwood and salmon-berry bushes. The beach also provides access for hand-carried smallcraft such as kayaks, canoes and inflatable boats.

Wildlife You May See

Birds

Rufous-sided towhee
Black-capped chickadee
American robin
Dark-eyed junco
House finch
Bewick's wren
Cedar waxwing
Bushtit
European starling
Northern flicker
Gadwall
Mallard
Canada goose
American coot
American widgeon
House sparrow

Butterflies

Sara's orange tip
Silvery blue
Western tiger swallowtail
Western white
Alfalfa sulphur
Large wood nymph
Ochre ringlet
Western painted lady
Mylitta crescent
Purplish copper
Juba skipper
Woodland skipper
Mourning cloak
Lorquin's admiral

Mammals

Beaver
Muskrat
Raccoon
Eastern grey squirrel
House mouse
Common deer mouse
Opposum
Red bat
Big brown bat
Hoary bat
Little brown bat
Shrew-mole
Townsend's mole
Townsend's vole
Pacific water shrew
Vagrant shrew

List of Plants Used to Enhance the Habitats

Woodland

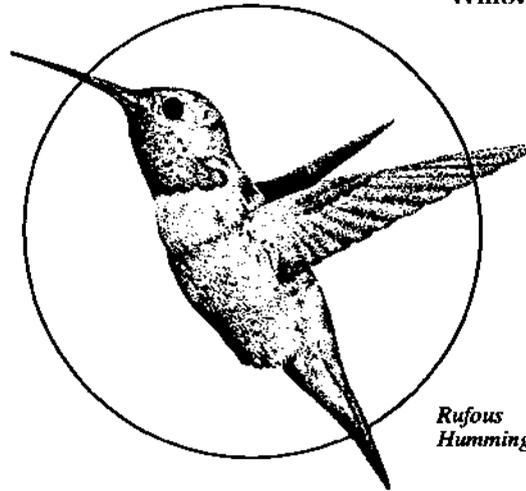
Serviceberry
Cascara
Salal
Low Oregon grape
Indian plum
Sword fern
Red-flowering currant
Snowberry
Evergreen huckleberry
Ninebark
Kinnikinnick
Lady fern
Creeping mahonia
Roses

Butterfly and Hummingbird Garden

Mock orange
Columbine
Spirea
Butterfly bush
Foxglove
Bear grass
Hardy fuschia
False spirea

Shoreline

Red-twig dogwood
Salmonberry
Willow



Rufous
Hummingbird

Try This At Home

One of the purposes of this wildlife demonstration project is to show people how they can do something similar at home. By imitating the structure of the natural world, you can entice different kinds of wildlife to your property. You do this by keeping the three characteristics of habitat (variety, edges, and layering) in mind as you plan your wildlife sanctuary:

Variety

Always provide several different species of plants. The more variety of vegetation you have, the more wildlife you will attract. Planting native plants will attract more native wildlife.

Edges

Create these wildlife-rich zones by planting two different habitats next to each other (for example, grass and brushy thicket, or meadow and woods) and use uneven borders (nature does not always provide straight lines).

Layering

Most species of wildlife eat, nest or rest at specific heights of vegetation, so you need to plant a continuum of vertical vegetation including ground cover plants, low and tall shrubs, short and tall broad-leaf trees and conifers.

Diversity

What you are doing by using these guidelines is creating maximum habitat diversity. The more diverse your property, the more species you will attract. Then you will need to:

Find the best place

Evaluate your yard for sun, shade and water availability. Determine where wildlife would be visible and enjoyable to you while keeping in mind the animals' safety—from cats, cars, kids, and hitting windows, for example.

Choose the proper plants

Research the habitat requirements for the wildlife you want to attract. Likely sources for this information are natural history books and field guides at your local bookstore or library. More detailed wildlife books and wildlife magazines can help you learn about their food, shelter and space needs. Information is also available from the Washington Department of Wildlife's Backyard Sanctuary Program or the City of Seattle Parks and Recreation Department.

Plan the space

Draw a diagram of your property, including buildings, pathways, existing vegetation and people areas. Now, using tracing paper or a copy of your base map, add your ideas for nesting, feeding, and sheltered areas, birdbath, viewing, butterfly or hummingbird garden, pond, etc. Next play with the kinds of plants that would do the job, such as conifers, fruiting bushes, flowers, a hedge, etc. Create as many plans as you like.

Experimenting on paper with different costs, locations, and arrangements may help you avoid future problems. (See Washington Department of Wildlife's publication, *Landscape Design for Wildlife*, for full details.)

Be patient; it will take time for the plants to grow and for wildlife to find your backyard habitat. Avoid any pesticides and herbicides; for information on non-harmful methods of dealing with common yard/outdoor pests contact Washington Toxics Coalition, 4516 University Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105, 206-632-1545).

You can register your yard with the Washington Department of Wildlife as a **Backyard Wildlife Sanctuary**, as more than 3500 people have done since 1985. You will receive a certificate and a sign to display on your property. To receive an information packet, send a postcard to Backyard Wildlife Sanctuary Program, Washington Dept. of Wildlife, 16018 Mill Creek Blvd., Mill Creek, WA 98012.

Community Service Volunteer Opportunities

The Waterway 19 Habitat Demonstration Project is an opportunity for you to help wildlife. Individuals and organizations interested in community service to enhance wildlife habitat in the city are invited to write the Department of Wildlife at the address above or call the City of Seattle Parks and Recreation Department at 684-7059. Projects available include a butterfly/hummingbird garden, woodland, shoreline and trail maintenance, wildlife observation database development, and others. Our volunteer orientation program will teach you skills in habitat enhancement, plant identification, and wildlife observation. Schools may also use this area as an outdoor environmental education laboratory.

This project was made possible by the vision and efforts of the Seattle Shoreline Coalition and the Wallingford Community Council. Funding was provided by the Washington Department of Wildlife Urban Wildlife Program, the City of Seattle Parks and Recreation Department, and the Department of Natural Resources - Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account. Community volunteers coordinated by Greg Hill of the Wallingford Community Council contributed their time and equipment to this project. Without the cooperation and commitment of all these players, Waterway 19 would still be only a dream.

The text of this pamphlet was written by Donna Gleisner and Becky Herbig of the Urban Nongame Program. The graphic design and illustration was produced by Darrell Pruett of the Information and Education Division of the Department of Wildlife.

First printing 15,000 copies

Printed on recycled paper



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Department of Wildlife



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WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources
Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account

Waterway 19 Habitat Demonstration Project



URBAN WILDLIFE PROJECT
A Habitat Enhancement Area